

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule which ~~codes for~~ encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, which ~~codes for~~ encodes a protein consisting essentially of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, which is a DNA molecule.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 2 or a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 2 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 3 or a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 3 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, comprising a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence according to SEQ ID NO 4 or a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence which differs from the sequence according to SEQ ID NO 4 only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3, which consists essentially of a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO 2, SEQ ID NO 3, SEQ ID NO 4 and a ~~base~~ nucleotide sequence which differs from any of the said ~~base~~ nucleotide sequences only due to the degeneracy of the genetic code.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising at least one further nucleic acid molecule ~~coding for~~ encoding a protein selected from the group of proteins encoded by the following *Acremonium chrysogenum* genes: pcbAB, pcbC, cefD1, cefD2, cefEF and cefG.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules ~~coding for~~ encoding the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: pcbAB and pcbC, respectively.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules ~~coding~~ encoding for the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: cefD1 and cefD2, respectively.

Claim 12. (Currently amended) The vector according to claim 8, additionally comprising two further nucleic acid molecules ~~coding for~~ encoding the proteins encoded by the Acremonium chrysogenum genes: cefEF and cefG, respectively.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) The vector according to claim 8, which is suitable for transformation of a host cell.

Claim 14. (Original) The vector according to claim 13, wherein the host cell is a microorganism.

Claim 15. (Original) The vector according to claim 14, wherein the microorganism is Acremonium chrysogenum.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A host cell which has been transformed with a vector according to claim 8.

Claim 17. (Original) The host cell according to claim 16, which is a microorganism.

Claim 18. (Original) The host cell according to claim 17, wherein the microorganism is Acremonium chrysogenum.

Claim 19. (Original) A process for production of cephalosporin C, comprising culturing of a host cell according to claim 18 under conditions suitable for effecting production of cephalosporin C by the host cell.

Claim 20. (Original) The process according to claim 19, further comprising isolation of the cephalosporin C produced.

Claim 21. (Original) An isolated protein comprising an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The protein according to claim 21, which consists essentially of the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO 1.